might it not be expected to reach when Royalty was its object? in the nineteenth century, there were zealous republicans (for instance, in his youthful days, Joseph Chamberlain), and it was thought that their number would certainly increase as the franchise was extended; on the contrary, manhood, and still more womanhood, suffrage has almost extinguished Republicanism, and carried the Monarchy to a popularity before undreamed of. As an antidote to the Stewarts, the Hanoverians were perfect; they imposed insuperable obstacles to being admired, and since they could not speak English, and disliked England, it was reasonable to assume that their part in the nation's life and government would be small. Yet, though in succeeding years the Crown's constitutional powers dwindled, its prestige increased, until the reigning Sovereign was considered beyond criticism, and made the object of a veneration which the civilised accord only to sacred, and savages to magical, symbols. Queen Victoria was respected, King Edward VII was admired, and King George V was adulated.

This adulation was, if anything, more prevalent among the lower than the upper classes; *The Times* has, for Royalty, its particular organ note ('At Christmas and at other times he has talked to his people, a father to his children, till his voice is as well known as his face . . .'), but the *Daily Herald* and the *Daily Mirror,* if less unctuous, are not less whole-hearted.[34] It is the difference between Evensong at St. Paul's and a revivalist meeting. Only the *Daily Worker,* all its adulatory resources expended

on Stalin, has taken an habitually critical attitude; while Mr.

[34] The following conversation, alleged to have taken place between a small girl and a Chelsea pensioner, was recorded, with the comment that its 'beauty and simplicity were such as few novelists would ever invent':

* The old man, leaning down to the girl, said in a quiet, rather husky voice: "Have you ever seen the dear King?"
* "I think he's very sweet," said the girl looking up, and then added seriously: "I think the old King was very kind—and very sweet."
' "They are all sweet—the royal personages," replied the pensioner with a wonderful dignity.
* "I *love* the Royal Family!" said the little girl with a fervent earnestness.'